

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 04095 141857Z

72

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 HEW-08 L-03 STR-08

TAR-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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R 141700Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1076

UNCLAS BONN 04095

DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE FOR STEINMETZ,APHIS &
STROBEL,FAS

E.O. LL652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, GW

SUBJECT: POULTRY HYGIENE LAW - LABELING

REF: RECENT LETTER REQUESTING CLEARANCE OF LABELS

1. THE LABELS WERE REVIEWED BY FEDMINHEALTH OFFICIALS
AND FOUND ACCEPTABLE AS TO THE ACTUAL LABELING.

2. HOWEVER, THERE ARE PRESENTLY VARYING OPINIONS AMONG
EXPERTS REGARDING THE INTERPRETATION OF THE POULTRY
MEAT MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS ORDINANCE, APPENDIX 2, CHAPTER
III, PARA 1 LAST SENTENCE, "PROTECTIVE WRAPPING MUST BE
TRANSPARENT AND COLORLESS". PREVAILING OPINION IN THE
MINISTRY PRESENTLY IS THAT GENERALLY ABOUT TWO-THIRDS
OF THE PRODUCT MUST BE VISIBLE. THIS OVERALL GUIDE
PROBABLY PRESENTS LITTLE PROBLEM FOR MOST U.S.
PRODUCTS EXCEPT FOR THE TRAY PACK, AS MOST TRAYS
PRESENTLY USED ARE NON-TRANSPARENT. FEDMINHEALTH IN-
FORMED US THAT THIS QUESTION IS PRESENTLY UNDER DIS-
CUSSION ALSO IN BRUSSELS AND NO FINAL DECISION HAS BEEN
REACHED SO FAR. IN THE MEANTIME THIS PROBLEM IS LEFT TO
THE INTERPRETATION OF THE LAENDER (STATES).

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3. WE CONTACTED THE RESPECTIVE VETERINARIAN IN NORTH
RHEIN WESTPAHLIA WITH REGARD TO THIS QUESTION AND RE-
CEIVED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: THE BASIC GUIDE
APPLIED BY THE BORDER VETERINARIANS IN THIS STATE IS
THAT ABOUT 50 OF THE PRODUCT MUST BE SUFFICIENTLY
VISIBLE TO ALLOW PROPER BORDER INSPECTION. IN THE CASE
OF NON-TRANSPARENT TRAYS, THE PRINT ON THE TRANSPARENT
COVERING SHOULD BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT
INSPECTION OF THE PRODUCT. SHOULD PROPER
INSPECTION NOT BE POSSIBLE, THE VETERINARIAN WOULD,
CONTRARY TO APPENDIX 4, CHAPTER I, NO.5 OF THE
POULTRY MEAT EXAMINATION ORDINANCE, HAVE TO OPEN THE
COVERING FOR INSPECTION.
HILLENBRAND

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